16th February 1959]

certain vital information which has to be obtained by careful scrutiny of the original vouchers and other records with the Accountant-General. A certain amount of delay is inevitable in cases of this kind where numerous persons are involved and detailed and careful examination of individuals and of various vouchers and records from many directions is required. Every effort is however being made to proceed with the case expeditiously.

SRI A. VEDARATHNAM : இவ்வளவு பெரிய தொகை கையாடல் செய்யப்படுவதற்கு எதுவாக அவர்களிடம் ஏன் இவ்வளவு பெரிய தொகை அஜாக்கிரதையாக விட்டு வைக்கப்பட்டிருந்தது ? அதை, இடையிடையே "செக்" பண்ண வேண்டியவர்கள் அவ்வாறு "செக்" பண்ணி வந்திருக்கிறார்களா ? அவர்கள் "செக்" பண்ணி வந்திருந்தால் இவ்வளவு ஜாஸ்தியான தொகை கையாடப்படுவது நேர்ந்திருக்காதே. இனிமேலாவது இவ்வளவு பெரிய தொகை கையாடல் செய்யப்படுவதற்கு வசதி இல்லாதபடி செய்ய அரசாங்கம் என்ன நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கும் ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : இதற்கு தனிக் கேள்வி போட்டால் பதிலளிக்கப்படும்.

SRI T. SAMPATH : May I know, what is the amount involved?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The loss was estimated by the Accountant-General as over Rs. 40,000.

MR. SPEAKER : Questions are over.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES.

SRI K. S. SUBRAMANIA GOUNDER : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I the Chairman of the Committee on Estimates having been authorized by the Committee to submit the report on its behalf present the report on Agricultural Experimental Farms, Agricultural Demonstration and Propaganda including Public Exhibitions and Fairs.

III.—REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES ("DINA THANTHI" CASE NO. 2)

MR. SPEAKER : I have received a letter from the Editor, Dina Thanthi, dated 14th February 1959 which reads as follows :

"In the matter of breach of privilege of the Legislative Assembly by the 'Daily Thanthi' newspaper, I tender to the House and to you my unconditional apology and request that the House be pleased to accept the apology. I had no chance to offer an apology to the Hon. Speaker before the matter was referred to the Privileges Committee of the House as I had no notice at that time. Now that I have an opportunity I hasten to tender the apology to the House.

I beg to invite your attention, Sir, to the fact that an apology tendered for the second time has been accepted in the case of other newspapers, for example, the 'Dina Mani'—vide Assembly proceedings, dated the 19th December 1953 and 23rd December 1953."

(Signed) P. RAMARATNAM,
Editor, Daily Thanthi."